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ABSTRACT

A survey of the status of language usage in Yugoslavia begins with an overview of the distribution of Serbo-Croatian, Croato-Serbian, Slovene, Macedonian, Albanian, and Hungarian, noting the status of all languages spoken there as nationality languages and as official languages in their speakers' republics. The equality of languages and cultures, the availability of education, the use of simultaneous translation in the parliament, and other factors contributing to a lack of linguistic unrest are outlined. A matrix follows that rates these languages on: (1) their usage rating using State Department classifications; (2) increase and decrease trends by the year 2000; (3) chief of state use in addressing the populace; (4) use in armed forces, government, court, and diplomatic communications, written and oral; (5) use as a language of instruction or required language in higher education, on the secondary and elementary levels, and in adult education; (6) use in the popular press, radio and television broadcasting, and film; (7) business and professional use, written and oral; (8) use in intellectual circles; (9) the alphabet situation; (10) the status of indigenous literature; (11) use in public signs and notices; and (12) the availability of instructional materials and dictionaries in the native languages for use in English as a second language. Explanatory notes give the number and population percentages using the languages, the type of alphabet used, and specific instructional material titles. A selected bibliography is also included. (MSE)

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COUNTRY STATUS REPORT:

YUGOSLAVIA

June 1984

Prepared by:

Barbara Robson

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Center for Applied Linguistics
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Center for Applied Linguistics/LARC
Country Status Report
June, 1984
Yugoslavia - 1, Overview

The major languages of Yugoslavia are Serbocroatian (considered as separate varieties Serbo-Croatian and Croato-Serbian in political contexts), Slovene and Macedonian. Serbo-Croatian is spoken in the Republics of Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Montenegro. Croato-Serbian is spoken in the Republics of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Slovene is spoken in the Republic of Slovenia. Macedonian is spoken in the Republic of Macedonia. Other important languages in Yugoslavia are Albanian, spoken in the Autonomous Region of Kosovo and in the Republic of Macedonia, and Hungarian, spoken in the Autonomous Region of Vojvodina. Albanian and Hungarian, along with the other languages spoken in Yugoslavia, have the status of nationality languages, and are official languages in the republics where their speakers live.

The equality of languages and cultures of the people living in Yugoslavia has been, along with the development of a Federal government, a guiding principle in Yugoslavia since World War II. All constitutions have guaranteed the right of Yugoslav citizens to the use of their native languages in education, administration on both the Republic and Federal levels, and in national, regional and local courts. In less-developed areas, the Federal Government has made particular efforts to establish and maintain education and cultural development; as a result, the Macedonian language in particular enjoys greater status in Yugoslavia than in the other countries where it is spoken.

As the educational systems in the Republics have developed, native-language education on the primary level has become available to all children in the country, with sophisticated bilingual education schools in areas of linguistic diversity preparing minority-language pupils for secondary education in the respective Republic languages. Higher education is available in the six languages mentioned above.

Beginning with the 1967 installation of simultaneous-translation facilities in the Yugoslav Parliament, the constitutionally-guaranteed right to use one's native language for official functions has become a practical possibility. Various forms of the media have developed equally in the languages - language use in the popular press, radio, television and film reflects the size and distribution of the populations speaking the languages.

Government policy and its implementation have made language issues not a source of unrest. Most writers suggest that the 1967 Croatian agitation for separate language status for their variety of Serbocroatian was not a language issue so much as the use of language as a surrogate for other causes. The recent riots in Kosovo had nothing to do with the use of Albanian.

In this climate of governmentally-fostered multi-lingualism, practical factors are causing Serbocroatian to become Yugoslavia's lingua franca. Some 80% of the population of Yugoslavia speak one or the other of its varieties natively. The majority of the remaining 20% have some familiarity with the language: two years' study of Serbocroatian is required in elementary schools throughout Yugoslavia, and it is for practical purposes the language of the Peoples' Army. The impression from several sources is that it is easier to use Serbocroatian than to put up with the inconvenience of translation. The Presidents of the Yugoslav Federation, for example, address the populace in Serbocroatian, despite their constitutional right to speak their respective native languages, and despite the availability of simultaneous translation.

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Yugoslavia - 2, Language Use Matrix

YUGOSLAVIA

Factoids	Languages: Serbo-Croatian	Croato-Serbian	Macedonian	Slovenian	Hungarian	Albanian
1. Usage rating*	1	2	2	2	4	4
2. Increase/decrease	1	3	1	2	1	3
3. Chief of State use?	1	1	0	0	0	0
4. Armed Forces/written	1	1	1	1	1	1
5. Armed Forces/oral	1	1	1	1	1	1
6. Government/written	2	2	2	2	0	0
7. Government/oral, national	2	2	2	2	2	2
8. Government/oral, local	2	2	2	2	2	2
9. Court/written	2	2	2	2	2	2
10. Court/oral	2	2	2	2	2	2
11. Diplomatic use?	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Higher education	1	1	1	1	1	1
13. Higher ed: required?	0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Secondary education	1	1	1	1	1	1
15. Secondary: required?	1	1	1	1	1	1
16. Primary education	1	1	1	1	1	1
17. Primary: required?	1	1	1	1	1	1
18. Adult education	1	1	1	1	1	1
19. Popular press use	1	1	3	3	3	3
20. Transmission across borders?	1	1	0	1	1	1
21. Use in radio broadcasting	1	1	3	3	3	3
22. Use in TV broadcasting	1	1	3	3	3	3
23. Use in film	1	1	1	1	1	1
24. Business/professional/written	2	2	2	2	2	2
25. Business/professional/oral	1	1	3	3	3	3
26. Use in intellectual circles	1	1	1	1	1	1
27. Alphabet situation*	2	2	1	1	1	1
28. Status of literature	1	1	1	1	3	3
29. Use in signs?	1	1	1	1	1	1
30. Teaching materials*	1	1	2	1	2	1
31. Bilingual dictionaries*	1	1	2	2	2	1

Notes:

Matrix figures are explained on following pages

? = information unavailable within time frame of project

- = not applicable

* = footnotes on following pages

FOOTNOTES

1. 1983 ESTIMATES, NUMBERS OF NATIVE SPEAKERS

Language	Number of native speakers	Percentage of population
Serbo-Croatian	9,918,000	45%
Croato-Serbian	5,073,000	23%
Slovenian	1,824,000	8.3%
Macedonian	1,368,000	6.2%
Albanian	1,824,000	8.3%
Hungarian	456,000	2%

27. TYPE OF ALPHABET USED

Language	Alphabet
Serbo-Croatian	Cyrillic, sometimes Latin
Croato-Serbian	Latin, sometimes Cyrillic
Slovenian	Latin
Macedonian	Cyrillic
Albanian	Latin
Hungarian	Latin

30. TEACHING MATERIALS FOR ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Language	Texts
Serbo-Croatian	Serbo-Croatian Basic Course. Monterey: DLI, 1958-66.
	Lord, Albert Bates. Beginning Serbo-Croatian. The Hague: Mouton and Co, 1961.
	Lukic, George. Basic Serbo-Croatian Languages, 2nd Ed. Columbus, OH: Kosovo Publishing Co, 1981.
Croato-Serbian	Leskovar, E., K. Pranjic and Ljudevit Jonke. Hrvatsko-srpski: audio-vizuelna globalno-strukturalna metoda. Serbocroatian Audio-visual Global-structural Method. Zagreb: Jugoton, 1975.
Slovenian	Gobetz, Milena and Breda Loncar. Slovenian Language Manual: Ucbenik slovenskega jezika. Willoughby Hills, OH: Slovenian Research Center of America, Inc., 1976.
	Toporisic, Joze. Zakaj ne po slovensko: Slovene by Direct Method. Ljubljana: Slovenska izseljenska matica, 1969.
Macedonian	Titelbaum, Olga Adler. Handbook for the Study of the Macedonian Language; Beginners' Course, 2nd ed. Skopje: University Press, 1971.

30. TEACHING MATERIALS FOR ENGLISH SPEAKERS (continued)

Language	Texts
Albanian	Newmark, Leonard et al. Spoken Albanian, Book I. Ithaca, NY: Spoken Language Services, Inc., 1980.
Hungarian	Hungarian Basic Course. Monterey, CAL: Defense Language Institute, 1964-70.
	Bako, Elemer. Hungarian Secondary School Reader. Cleveland, OH: Bell and Howell, 1962.

31. DICTIONARIES FOR ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Language	Text
Serbo-Croatian	Benson, Morton. Serbocroatian-English Dictionary. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1971.
	Benson, Morton. An English-Serbocroatian Dictionary. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1979.
Croato-Serbian	Filipovic, Rudolf et al. English-Croatian Dictionary, 6th ed. Zagreb: Zora, 1971.
	Bogadek, Francis A. New English-Croatian and Croatian-English Dictionary with an Appendix Comprising a Short Grammar of the English Language, Foreign Words and Phrases, Christian Names and Other Information, 3rd ed. New York: Hafner Publications, 1952.
Slovenian	Komac, Dasa and Ruzena Skerlij. English-Slovene and Slovene-English Dictionary. Ljubljana: Cankarjeva zalozba, 1970.
Macedonian	Crvenkovski, Dusan and Branislav Gruik. Anglisko-Makedonski recnik. Skopje: Prosvetno delo, 1971.
Albanian	Drizari, Nelo. Albanian-English and English-Albanian Dictionary. New York, NY: F. Ungar, 1957
	Mann, Stuart E. An English-Albanian Dictionary. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1957.
Hungarian	Orszagh, Laszlc. Angol-Magyar szotar. English-Hungarian Dictionary, 3rd ed. Budapest: Akademiai Kiado, 1970.
	Orszagh, Laszlo. Magyar-angol azotar. Hungarian-English Dictionary, 4th rev. ed. Budapest: Akademiai Kiado, 1974.

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Schmalstieg, William R. and Thomas F. Magner, eds. Sociolinguistic Problems in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia. (Folia Slavica I, no. 3) Columbus, OH: Slavica Publishers, Inc., 1978.

Kalogjera, Damir. "On Serbo-Croatian prescriptivism", pp. 388-399.
Magner, T.F. "Diglossia in Split", pp. 400-436.
Naylor, K.E. "The eastern variant of Serbocroatian as the lingua communis of Yugoslavia", pp. 456-468.
Toporisic, Joze. "A language of a small nationality in a multilingual state", pp. 480-486.

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Tollefson, James W. The language situation and language policy in Slovenia. Washington, D.C.: University Press of America, 1981.

Tomich, Vera. Education in Yugoslavia and the New Reform. (OE-14089 Bulletin 1963, No. 20) Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963.

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Explanation of Matrix Figures - a

1. Usage rating, using the State Department classifications
   1: Official language, most widely used.
   2: Official language, not most widely used.
   3: Widely used language, but not official. (Over 10% of population)
   4: Unofficial language used by significant minority (but less than 3)
   5: Unofficial language used by influential minority
   FOOTNOTE: NUMBERS OF SPEAKERS, PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION

2. Increase/decrease trends by the year 2000
   1: Number of native speakers will increase in proportion
   2: Number of native speakers will remain proportionally constant
   3: Number of native speakers will decrease in proportion

3. Chief of State use, in addressing populace: YES (1) NO (0)

4. Armed Forces written communications
   1: Only language used in official communiques
   2: One of the languages used in official communiques
   0: Not used in official communiques

5. Armed Forces oral communications
   1: Used on all levels
   2: Used among officers only
   3: Used among multi-lingual NCO's and troops
   4: Used among monolingual troops only
   0: Not used

6. Written government communications
   1: Only language used in official communications
   2: One of the languages used in official communications
   0: Not used in official communications

7. Oral government communications/national level
   1: Official language spoken in national assembly
   2: One of the official languages spoken in national assembly
   0: Not used in government

8. Oral government communications/local level
   1: Official language in local government
   2: One of the official languages used in local government
   3: Allowed in local government proceedings, translated into official language
   0: Not used in local government

9. Court use in written communications
   1: Only language used in official communications
   2: One of the languages used in official communications
   0: Not used

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Explanation of Matrix Figures - b

10. Court use in oral communications
    1: Only official language used in court
    2: One of the official languages used in court
    3: Allowed in courts, translated into official language(s)
    0: Not used in courts

11. Diplomatic use in notes to other countries: YES (1) NO (0)

12. Use in higher education
    1: Official medium of instruction
    2: Unofficial medium of instruction
    0: Not used

13. Language taught as subject in required courses in higher education:
    YES (1) NO (0)

14. Use in secondary education
    1: Official medium of instruction
    2: Unofficial medium of instruction
    0: Not used as medium of instruction

15. Language taught as subject in required courses on secondary level?
    YES (1) NO (0)

16. Use in primary education
    1: Official medium of instruction
    2: Unofficial medium of instruction
    0: Not used as medium of instruction

17. Language taught as subject in required courses on primary level?
    YES (1) NO (0)

18. Language use in adult education
    1: Used in oral and written technical instruction
    2: Used in oral and written life skills instruction
    3: Used in oral life skills instruction
    4: Used in literacy classes only
    0: Not used in adult informal education

19. Language use in popular press
    1: Used in publications throughout country
    2: Used in centrally-based publications with national distribution
    3: Used only in regional and local publications
    4: Used in clandestine publications only
    0: Not used

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Explanation of Matrix Figures - c

20. Language used in radio/TV transmission across national borders?
YES (1) NO (0)

21. Language use in radio broadcasting
1: Language used broadcasting thoughout country
2: Language used in centrally-based national broadcasts
3: Language used in local broadcasting only
3: Language used in clandestine broadcasting only
0: Language not used in radio broadcasting

22. Language use in TV broadcasting
1: Language used in telecasting throughout country
2: Language used in centrally-based national telecasting
3: Language used regional and local telecasting only
0: Language not used in TV

23. Language use in film
1: Language used in indigenous film-making
2: Foreign-language films dubbed/subtitled into langu[illegible]
0: Language not used in films

24. Business/Professional use - written
1: Sole official language in business and professional communications
2: One of the official languages in business and professional communication
0: Not used

25. Business/Professional use - oral
1: Used in trade and commerce throughout country
2: Used in national trade and commerce only
3: Used only in local trade and commerce

26. Language use in intellectual circles
1: Language used in indigenous scholarly publications
2: Language used in formal scholarly discussion
0: Language not used

27. Alphabet situation
1: Established standardized alphabet exists.
2: Alphabet developed, no standardization
3: Competing alphabets exist
0: No alphabet exists
FOOTNOTE: TYPE OF ALPHABET USED

28. Status of indigenous literature
1: Established written tradition exists
2: Literature tradition emerging
3: Popular literature exists
0: No written literature exists

29. Language used in official public signs, notices: YES (1) NO (0)

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Explanation of Matrix Figures - d

30. Teaching materials for English speakers
    1: Wide range of teaching materials exists
    2: Narrow range of teaching materials exists
    0: No teaching materials exist
    FOOTNOTE: SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

31. Dictionaries for English speakers
    1: Wide range of bilingual dictionaries exists
    2: Narrow range of dictionaries exists
    0: No dictionaries exist
    FOOTNOTE: SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY